

Docket No.: 235752US20

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/767,342

Applicants: Hidetaka ARIMURA, et al.

Filing Date: January 30, 2004

For: AUTOMATED METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR THE

DETECTION OF LUNG NODULES IN LOW-DOSE CT IMAGE FOR LUNG-CANCER SCREENING

Group Art Unit: 1616

Examiner:

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Our check in the amount of is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HIDETAKA ARIMURA, ET AL. : EXAMINER:

SERIAL NO: 10/767,342

FILED: JANUARY 30, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1616

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SCREENING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.